



FEB 0 7 2003

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

TO OFFICE ACTION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE 1800/2000

In re: Chisari

Appln. No.:

08/854,825

Filing Date:

May 12, 1997

For:

**Hepatitis C Virus-Derived** 

Peptides...

Reference:

329368-101A

Art Unit:

1648

Examiner:

Parkin, Jeffrey S.

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Responsive to the Office Action dated October 3, 2002, the amendments set forth below are respectfully submitted.<sup>1</sup> With the Petition for an Extension of Time (one month), the present amendment is timely filed on or before February 3, 2003.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL

SERVICE AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON,

D.C. 20231, ON 2/3/63.